

SENATE, No. 2670

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits legislative aide who works, or worked, directly for legislator in district office from making political contribution greater than \$30 per election to that legislator; prohibits receipt of such contribution.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT prohibiting certain campaign contributions and
2 supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.).
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
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7 1. a. (1) An individual who is employed, either full-time or
8 part-time, by a member of the Legislature to work in the legislative
9 district office of that legislator as an aide, personal assistant,
10 manager, advisor or secretary, or is otherwise compensated directly
11 by that legislator for activities or services regarding legislative
12 duties, shall not make a contribution of money or other thing of
13 value greater than \$30 per election to the legislator's candidate
14 committee or joint candidates committee. No legislator or
15 individual associated with the legislator's candidate committee or
16 joint candidates committee shall solicit or knowingly accept such a
17 contribution.

18 (2) An individual who was employed, either full-time or part-
19 time, by a member of the Legislature and worked in the legislative
20 district office of that legislator as an aide, personal assistant,
21 manager, advisor or secretary, or was otherwise compensated
22 directly by that legislator for activities or services regarding
23 legislative duties, shall not make a contribution of money or other
24 thing of value greater than \$30 per election to the legislator's
25 candidate committee or joint candidates committee during the two-
26 year period following his or her termination of employment or
27 service. No legislator or individual associated with the legislator's
28 candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall solicit or
29 knowingly accept such a contribution.

30 b. Any individual found to be in violation of subsection a. of
31 this section is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.
32

33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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36 STATEMENT 37

38 This bill prohibits a legislative aide who works, or worked,
39 directly for a member of the Legislature in a district office from
40 making a political contribution to that legislator. It also prohibits
41 the legislator or an individual associated with the legislator's
42 candidate committee or joint candidates committee from soliciting
43 or knowingly accepting such contribution.

44 Specifically, the bill provides that an individual, or an immediate
45 family member thereof, who is employed, either full-time or part-
46 time, by a member of the Legislature to work in the legislative
47 district office of that legislator as an aide, personal assistant,
48 manager, advisor or secretary, or is otherwise compensated directly

1 by that legislator for activities or services regarding legislative
2 duties, can not make a contribution of money or other thing of value
3 to the legislator's candidate committee or joint candidates
4 committee. As used in the bill, immediate family member means
5 the spouse of an individual and his or her child, step child, father,
6 mother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandmother, grandfather, or
7 grandchild living in the same household as the individual.

8 The bill establishes the same restriction on any individual who
9 was employed by a member of the Legislature during the two-year
10 period following his or her termination of employment or services.

11 The bill provides that any individual found to be in violation of
12 these restrictions is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree, which is
13 punishable by up to 18 months imprisonment and a fine of up to
14 \$10,000.